



Supervisor Chris Burdick's Report – June 30, 2018



Parks are Open – Come on by and Enjoy!

The parks are looking great, the water's fine and we invite you to enjoy them. You may not have heard about some of the highlights of this Summer's Park activities, so I'm excerpting below from my letter to the community which introduced the Spring/Summer 2018 Recreation and Parks Department brochure [for the full brochure please click here](#)

Spring and Summer Greetings...

Here are some highlights of what's in store this Summer:

- **Summer Parks Entertainment Series “Park it in Bedford”** This popular series will continue this summer at our hamlet parks. There is something for everyone, from music, to movies, to magicians so come out & enjoy all of our hamlet parks! [Flyer](#)
- **Throwback Thursdays** This new program has been added to our pool activities this summer for our senior residents. All Town of Bedford seniors age 65+ are invited to come out on Thursdays, June 7, 14 & 21, from 11am-3pm, at the “throwback price”. **FREE admission!** Non-resident senior guests are welcome for \$1.00 and our food concessionaire will be offering special “Throwback” menu. See page 42 of the brochure (link is above).
- **Day Trips** Fun trips for Adults and Senior Adults will be offered this year -Mohegan Sun Casino, Norman Rockwell Museum, Mystic Village/Seaport, the Big E in Massachusetts, and the Nat Geo Encounter in NYC – more info on these trips can be found on pages 29 & 39 of the brochure (link is above)

(cont)

- **The Bedford Village Swim & Dive Team** Will be celebrating its 50th year on Saturday, July 21 with an anniversary celebration that will include pool games, music, food & fun – for more info check out their website at <http://www.bedfordvillageswimanddive.org/>
- **Family Camp Out** Looking ahead save the date for the Family Campout going into its fourth year at Bedford Village Memorial Park Saturday, September 8 & Sunday, September 9.
- **Bedford Food & Fun Festival** Mark your calendars and head to Bedford Hills Memorial Park on Saturday September 22 for Bedford's first Food & Fun Festival.

From Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Bill Heidepriem:

Summer 2018

Just in time for Memorial Day, the flagpoles at Lawrence Circle in Katonah, the Town House and Bedford Village Memorial Park were repainted.

The repaving of the access driveway next to the Katonah pool was completed prior to the pool opening for the 2018 season.

The Katonah tennis courts steps were recently replaced by the Parks Dept. staff

This summer maintenance work on the playing surface will be performed at:

Bedford Hills Memorial Park;

Tennis Courts (tentatively scheduled to start July 2nd thru early August)

Basketball Courts (tentatively scheduled to start August 6th thru early September)

Katonah Memorial Park:

Tennis Courts (tentatively scheduled to start July 30th thru August 31st)

Basketball Court (tentatively scheduled to start August 6th thru mid-September)

The work will include the cleaning of the playing surface, crack repairs and re color coating of the courts.

In addition to the Park it in Bedford Summer entertainment series held at the various parks a Children's Poolside Summer Concert has been added on

Sunday July 15th featuring *Annie & Safari Bob* from Annie and the Natural Wonder Band. The schedule is as follows:

Bedford Village Pool 12:30pm | Bedford Hills Pool 2:00pm | Katonah Pool 3:30pm

June Town Board Actions

The Board adopted a number of amendments to local laws or adoption of new local laws including:

Revisions to the Parking Code

As recommended by Comptroller Abraham Zambrano who also heads the Town's Parking Bureau, following public hearings, the Board adopted revisions to the parking chapter of the Town Code to update the parking chapter for changes in technology, address non-residential weekday use of the commuter lots in "off hours" and to update/increase the fines/penalties for violations. The amendments more clearly identify the commuter parking lots and municipal parking areas; prohibition of parking vehicles of over 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or more than 20 feet in length on any public street, or town right-of-way in a residential district or in any Town owned, operated and maintained public parking areas or lots except for the temporary parking of those vehicle making local deliveries or picking up goods, wares or merchandise; and further clarifies the ability of the Police Department to tow or immobilize vehicles in violation of Town law. The amendments were adopted following a public hearing in each of two meetings, one on June 5 and the second on June 19.

Reusable Bags

The Town Board on June 5 also adopted a local law, as recommended by the Reusable Bag Task Force, which is an adaptation of Suffolk County's successful reusable bag. Our law requires stores with ground floor retail space in excess of 5,000 square feet to charge a fee of 10 cents for a single-use plastic or paper bag to any customer who comes to the check-out counter without a reusable bag. We are partnering with our grocery stores, ShopRite, Key Foods and DeCicco's who will be working with us to help change consumer behavior. ShopRite has pledged to distribute to its customers at no cost up to 6,200 reusable bags while Key Foods and DeCicco's will sell reusable bags to their customers at 25 cents each and free for those buying \$50 or more. The law will not take effect until April 1, 2019 after a ramp up period to get the word out to the community and get the thousands of reusable bags into the hands of consumers. The objective is simple: let's cut down on the waste and environmental damage single-use bags create. Let's use the reusable bags so none of us has to pay a dime to make it happen [link to the revised law](#)

Local Law on Leaf Blowers

The Town Board, following an extensive public hearing and public meetings earlier this year, on June 19 adopted a local law regulating the use of leaf blowers. The Board worked for a number of months with Town staff and the Leaf Blowers Task Force and relied heavily on feedback from members of the community, especially those who considered as too stringent some ideas earlier under consideration. The Board adopted hours and days of use which are uniform throughout the Town. The Board did not adopt certain other provisions, such as complete bans, licensing of landscapers, requirement to obtain a permit or shorter leaf season.

There are two special rules for Hamlet Zones (see below), which are primarily smaller lots and based on zoning districts, otherwise Hamlet Zones are treated the same as the rest of the Town.

The following is a quick summary table:

Effective August 15, 2018:

Hours Permitted for Leaf Season

September 16 through May 14

Weekdays

8:00 AM through 6:00 PM

Saturdays and Holidays

10:00 AM through 4:00 PM

No Sundays

Hours Permitted Off Season

May 15 through September 15

Weekdays

9:00 AM through 5:00 PM

Saturdays and Holidays

10:00 AM through 4:00 PM

No Sundays

Special Rules for Hamlet Zones

Year round: one leaf blower at a time and no push-behind blowers

Off-season (effective 2019): no gas powered blowers during off season

[link to the new law](#)

[link to FAQs](#)

Town Comptroller Report – May 2018

Comptroller Abraham Zambrano reported on June 12 to the Town Board the financial results for May 2018 as follows:

EXPENDITURES

General and Highway Funds. The attached reports demonstrate that the overall year-to-date expenditure percentage for the General is 40.5% which is just one half of one percent lower than what it should be as of May 31. While the Highway Fund is at 39.5% or 1.5% lower than average at this time of the year.

REVENUE AREAS OF NOTE

Mortgage Tax. The information provided by the Office of the Westchester County Clerk shows a substantial increase in mortgage activity during the month of May. The amount of mortgage tax for this month was \$87,510 which exceeded last year's by over \$30,000. At this point, based on the numbers reported for the month of May and historical data/trends, our preliminary calculations for the rest of the year indicated that we will end the year slightly below the budgeted amount. However, there are trends indicating that home sales will continue into the summer months and that the amount budgeted for the year will be met.

Sales Tax. At the time this report was prepared, the County's Department of Finance had not released numbers for the month of May. However, based on historical data and projections, sales tax revenue are projected to exceed by over 5.5% over the same period in 2017. Accordingly, we are optimistic that the same trend will continue for the rest of the year. Our calculations indicate that we will exceed the \$2,512,000 revenue budgeted for the year by over \$275,000.

Parking. Parking revenues recorded through May 31 are lower than in years past due to the recent parking permit software upgrade. The new digital parking permitting system based on license plate recognition technology was launched on May 25 and as of the date of this report, nearly a thousand of our renewing customers have registered and are in the process of submitting required documentation and payment. As we continue to make better use of the lots and gather permit use information, a substantial number of residents on the wait list will be able to buy permits later this year. Based on the technology upgrade and more efficient use of the lots, the \$1,130,000 parking revenue will be exceeded by year end.

Fines and Forfeited Bail. The collection of fines imposed by the Justice Court are recorded a month in arrears due to the timing of the processing by the NYS Office of Court Administration. Fines collected through the month of April total \$265,787 an amount that is \$19,600 higher than the same period in 2017. At this point, projections through the end of the year demonstrate that we will exceed budget by just \$150,000.

Safety Inspections. Safety Inspections fees for the May showed a significant increase in building permit applications. Based on this month's activity, the projected deficit in safety inspection was reduced from 16% below 2017 activity to just over 4% below the same period last year. Projections for the balance of the year indicate that safety inspection fees may meet the budgeted amount for the year.

CAPITAL PROJECTS: HOW WE FINANCE THEM AND STAY WITHIN THE CAP

I turned to Comptroller Abraham Zambrano for an explanation of our debt management policies and practices to responsibly and prudently finance capital needs and stay within the tax cap. We do so in a manner which is well received by credit rating agencies which continue to accord the Town the highest credit rating. Here's Abe's explanation:

New York State Law authorizes local governments, to borrow money to fund capital projects as deemed necessary by the municipality's governing body. In return, the local government is required to pledge its assurance and credit for the payment of principal and interest of the Bonds and is required to raise real estate taxes or other revenues to repay its indebtedness. Keeping in mind the limitations imposed by the Tax Levy Legislation Law, the Town Board has made a conscious effort to limit increases in debt service and general expenses in order to stay within the Tax Levy Limitation Law.

As it relates to debt service, in order to be able to stay within the limits set by the Tax Levy Cap Legislation, in December 2017, the Town Board adopted a ten (10) year capital plan (2018-2027) that took into account the amount of existing debt that would be retired in those years. For example, \$440,000 of debt was retired in 2017 allowing the \$515,000 debt service payment for the \$10,030,073 Bond issued in 2017 to be partially absorbed without major effect on the Tax Levy Cap in 2018. Actions like such, have been achieved by timetabling major projects during years when the greatest amounts of debt is retired. In addition to the planned project schedule, over the years, the Town has opted to structure its debt to be repaid at an accelerated rate so that a greater portion of the annual payment is applied to the principal in the initial years of the bond issue.

Based on the adoption of the bi-annual layered ten (10) year capital plan, the Town opts to issue a short term bond or Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) to finance the approved capital projects of the first year of cycle. Historically, BAN interest rates have been in the 1.5% to 1.75% based on the Town's AAA Bond Rating. On the second year of the cycle, the Town then issues a BOND for the total amount for the capital projects approved by the Town Boards for the two years. The term of the BOND varies by the type of asset that is being financed, but it can range from five (5) to thirty (30) years. However, traditionally, the Town has opted to issue BONDS for no longer than twenty five (25) years. The last two BONDS issued, the Town has been able to borrow at rates just above the three percent 3% mark; again due to the Town's AAA rating by both Standard & Poor Global Ratings and Dun & Bradstreet.

If you have questions or comments, please e-mail Abe at azambrano@bedfordny.gov or me at supervisor@bedfordny.gov.

UPDATE ON COMMUTER PARKING

Readers of these newsletters may recall that we're working to make resident commuter parking permitting easier and more efficient. We also are striving to reduce both the waiting time and waiting list for commuter parking permits. Remember that any resident is guaranteed a permit in one of our lots. And for those waiting for a permit in Lot 4 (Bedford Hills by the station), you might consider Lot 7 which is just steps away from Lot 4 – you enter from Railroad Avenue. As you'll read below, we have no waiting list for Lot 7.

Paperless/Digital Parking Permit System and Plans for Some Upgrades On May 25th, the Town launched a paperless/digital parking permit system based on license plate recognition. Town residents, businesses in the Bedford Hill and Katonah Business Districts and a limited number of non-residents are now able to obtain permits on line. At this point, over 900 permits have renewed electronically by current permit holders and about 200 have applied for permits that will be released once the required documentation and payment has been received. Based on the number of permits issued last year, there are close to 200 permit holders that have not applied to renew their parking permit for the July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 parking year. As we continue to use the parking lot in a more efficient manner and to make better use of the commuter lots, the town is planning on making improvements in the lots. Some of the things being considered for Town Board approval and funding include lightscaping, and landscaping specifically on the Railroad Avenue lots and signage and beautification in all the lots.

Status of Waiting List for Residential Permits Though the number of those waiting has come down somewhat, we're not satisfied that there's too long a wait for our "prime lots" (those closest to the train platform. Those waiting for Katonah Lot 1 might consider Lot 2 on Katonah Avenue (no wait list), and as mentioned above, those waiting for Bedford Hills Lot 4, might consider Lot 7 or RR (no wait list for either).

1. Lot 1 (adjacent to the train station in Katonah). We have 135 residents on the wait list with the oldest date 1/23/14.
2. Lot 4 (adjacent to the Bedford Hills train station). We have 160 residents on the wait list with the oldest date 3/21/14.
3. Lot 5 (on Adams Street in Bedford Hills just north of the post office) We have 4 resident on the wait list since early 2014.
4. Lot 2 (Katonah Avenue): no wait list
5. Lot 7 (lower level Railroad Avenue - right down from Lot 4): no wait list
6. Lot RR (shoulder on Railroad Avenue): no wait list.

UPDATE ON POLICE STATION RENOVATION PROJECT

On June 27, the Town Board visited the station to observe the work firsthand. We are pleased with the quality of work and the care being taken. Of course, we are disappointed that the soil and other contamination issues both resulted in significant expense and project delays. We continue to target late Summer/early Fall for the Departments able to return to the station from their temporary quarters in the lower level of the Town House building at 321 Bedford Road.

UPDATE ON POLICE STATION RENOVATION PROJECT (cont)

Just to review the bumps along the road which both has delayed the project and will result in a higher cost than the \$7 million bond issue which the Town Board has previously authorized.

- Significant and expensive contamination issues – petroleum and asbestos, the result of which was project delay as well as nearly \$500,000 in additional costs (which kept climbing as more contamination was discovered).
- Due to a change in the economics and NYS incentives for solar projects, we received no proposals for our Request for Proposals for carports with solar panels atop them for the police station. This is due to the facility being in NYSEG service area rather than Con Edison service area, which has higher rates and higher NYS incentives to solar developers. We had hoped that we would receive a proposal that would have provided the carports at no cost to the Town. Recognizing the need to protect police vehicles from the elements to prolong their useful lives, the Town issued a request for bids. We received a solitary bid in excess of \$350,000 – nearly three times what we anticipated. At the Town Board's June 5 meeting we rejected the bid and approved a \$16,000 proposal for engineering design to facilitate more competitive bidding including from manufacturers of prefabricated metal carports. I should note that the design will allow for a later installation of solar panels should they prove to be cost-effective. Meanwhile, we need the carports as part of the finished project and intend to go forward with them.

While it is clear that the project will not stay within the \$7 million bond issue, we feel we should be closer to completion before authorizing a supplemental bond issue. I also feel it's worthwhile to explain again why the Town did not demolish the station and build an entirely new one, rather than proceeding with the gut renovation and the additions now being carried out. As I mentioned in an earlier newsletter, it's a good and fair question. Before deciding on the project, the Town Board reviewed the options, including a new station. The estimate at that time was between \$12 and \$15 million for an entirely new edifice. In addition, a key stumbling block is that it is unlikely that the County Health Department would have approved the existing septic system for the station, and such a denial would have proved insurmountable. The contamination issues that we have dealt with would have also required remediation in the construction of an entirely new station. So despite our frustrations at going beyond the initial \$7 million bond issue, we feel confident that we chose the most financially prudent path for the new station and will result in a very well designed and constructed station which will serve the Department's mission for decades to come.

I wish to thank Chief Melvin Padilla for his watchful eye on the project. While, of course, we have professional services of our construction manager, Calgi Construction, it is critical that the department head, in this case Chief Padilla, is also intimately involved with the project.

Here is the Chief's update as well:

As the Board was able to see yesterday [June 27] during the walk through of the Police Headquarters renovation project, there has been significant progress made both inside and out. The exterior of the physical structure itself should be nearly completed over the next three to four weeks. Paving and landscaping should follow at some point in the mid-August time frame.

UPDATE ON POLICE STATION RENOVATION PROJECT (cont)

I would say overall, the project is approximately 95% complete (exterior) and 80-85% complete (interior). Over the next 30-60 days, the remaining portions of the interior to be completed include finishing all of the electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems as well as getting final inspections and sign-off on those systems. Next will come the installation of communications, networking, and security systems. While that is underway, doors, ceilings and trim will start to be installed and final coat of paint will be applied. After all of that, they will start on installing the finished flooring materials and trim throughout the building. The time frames mentioned can change based on field conditions but that is the best look-ahead I can give at this point based on my observations and the information I have available at this time.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT

I am pleased that a key agreement has been agreed to in principle and now will be sent through the channels for “registration”. I am referring to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the NYC Department of Environmental Protection and the Town. The IGA is being put in place for several reasons, most important of which is to replace the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation as DEP’s fiscal agent in disbursing project funds. EFC is no longer will serve as DEO fiscal agent after December 31. As explained in earlier newsletters, the IGA will provide direct DEP funding to the Town for the DEP’s project share costs of up to \$13.2 million. This funding is referred to as the “Alternative Upgrade Program”, so named because the funds are being provided to the Town in lieu of DEP providing new wastewater systems for Katonah Elementary School, Bedford Park Apartments and St. Mary’s SSchool and rectory buildings. The NYC process for “registering” the IGA now finalized with the local DEP administrators is lengthy – as much as a year. The Town Board authorized me on June 5 to execute the IGA. Until the IGA is in place we would not proceed with going out to bid on the project. Early last year, we pegged the start of construction as first quarter 2019, but then with Woodard & Curran being ahead of schedule on design, we thought we might start as early as this Fall. We now are looking at mid to late 2019. Nonetheless, the Town’s design engineers, Woodard & Curran, continues to press ahead. We have received comments from DEP and the Westchester County Health Department and Woodard & Curran is revising the designs to reflect such comments. We continue to anticipate completion of the design of the sewer system this Summer/early Fall.

We also are pleased with the cooperation of the other parties, including the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS), Westchester County Department of Health and each of the owners of the “upgrade sites”. I should note that we are near completion of a draft agreement with DOCCS. We also have been working on amendatory agreements with KLSD, Bedford Park Apartments and St. Mary’s and are near completion on them as well.

I earlier mentioned that the critical Home Rule Law authorizing DOCCS to convey its wastewater treatment plant to the Town was adopted by both the State Assembly and State Senate thanks to the work of Assemblyman David Buchwald and State Senator Shelley Mayer. The bill now goes to the Governor for signature.

We will continue to keep the community advised.

...AND DON'T FORGET – SEPTIC SYSTEM REPAIR & REPLACEMENT

PROGRAM: septic pump out - if you haven't done it within the last five years, the law requires you do so. And, if you have a problem with your system, please check out the Town's Septic System Repair and Replacement program to deal with failing septic systems. The program allows Bedford property owners in the Croton Watershed (about 85% of the Town's land area) for a 50% reimbursement of repair/replacement costs. If you have a failing septic system, contact the Planning Department at 666-4434 for further information or visit our [website](#).

Moving ahead on Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

The Town Board approved submitting applications to Westchester County which is administering the HUD-funded Community Development Block Grants for those municipalities which are participating in the program. The Town accepted the County's invitation to participate in the competitive process of seeking CDBG grants. As earlier reported, a portion of Bedford Hills is designated as low and moderate income and, as to which, the Town may apply for CDBG grants, especially for projects beneficial to the entire designated area. Not for profit organizations also may apply for CDBG funding. This funding cycle covers three years. Following a public hearing, the Town Board authorized proceeding with two public works projects in Bedford Hills (the second of which will be in two phases over two years). The Town must provide not less than a 50% match toward the cost of any projects. Following the advice of staff at the County's Planning Department, the Town has submitted applications for two viable and worthy public works projects. The first is a reconfiguration of the intersection of Babbitt and Harris Roads and the second is a sidewalk project (and related work). Working with Hahn Engineering, Kevin Winn has updated project cost estimates. Planning Director Jeff Osterman prepared the narrative, application and other supporting documentation. The projects and costs for which applications were submitted are:

Year	Project	Total Cost	CDBG Request	Town Portion	Town Funding Source
1	Harris Road and Babbitt Road intersection reconfiguration	\$400,000	\$175,000	\$225,000	General Fund fund balances
2	Sidewalk, curb, culverts and catch basins Babbitt Road to from Buxton Road to 1500 feet east of Buxton Road	\$400,000	\$175,000	\$225,000	Capital
3	Sidewalk, curb, culverts and catch basins Babbitt Road from 1500 feet east of Buxton Road to Turin Avenue	\$400,000	\$175,000	\$225,000	Capital
		\$1,200,000	\$525,000	\$675,000	

Further information regarding the project may be accessed here:

[Bedford's applications for Community Development Block Grants for Public works projects in Bedford Hills.](#)

Fellowship Hall's CDBG Application

Independent of the Town's application, Fellowship Hall, Inc. a limited profit housing company which has provided affordable housing to low and moderate income seniors since the early 1960s, is submitting its own application for improvements involving the replacement of the sidewalks, curbs and handrails at its residential complex, as well as the repair of two culverts. One goal of the project is to protect the health and safety of Fellowship Hall's elderly residents. The Town furnished Fellowship Hall a forum for the public hearing which it is required to hold for its application. No action on the part of the Town is required.

UPDATE ON PLANS FOR BEDFORD VILLAGE MUNICIPAL PARKING

I met today with representatives of the Bedford Presbyterian Church to discuss the Town's offer of \$150,000 to purchase the Church's vacant land off of Court Road for the purposes of constructing a municipal parking lot to serve the hamlet center. The offer amount is the appraised fair market value of the property. Last year environmental evaluation of the site showed no issues. We held a public meeting earlier this year at which comments we received showed positive support. I remain hopeful that we can enter into an agreement with the Church in the next couple of months which would be subject to the Town's receiving the needed approvals for constructing the lot, including the US Army Corps of Engineers, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (stormwater permit), the Bedford Village Historic District Review Commission, the Bedford Planning Board and the Bedford Wetlands Control Commission, among others. The permitting process may take between 18 months and two years. The actual construction of the lot and the wetlands mitigation project less time.

FOR THE SUPERVISOR'S MAY MONTHLY REPORT [Click here](#)

PRIOR POSTS OF CONTINUED RELEVANCE

Settlement with Fair Housing Justice Center and Westchester Residential

Opportunities. Following further discussion, and based on the recommendations of the Town's attorneys, Keane & Beane, P.C., the Town Board and the Board of Directors of the Blue Mountain Housing Development Corporation, Inc. (Blue Mountain), the Town's affordable housing affiliate, approved a proposed settlement of claims brought against the Town and Blue Mountain alleging that the existence of certain workforce and residency preferences in the Town Code's middle-income dwelling unit law have had a disparate impact against persons of a certain race. As earlier reported, the background is as follows: on July 26, 2017, plaintiffs Fair Housing Justice Center, Inc. (FHJC) and Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc. (WRO) filed a complaint in federal court alleging the claims summarized above against the Town and Blue Mountain. The Town and Blue Mountain have denied the allegations and deny any wrongdoing and have taken the position that entering into the settlement is not to be construed as an admission of liability, or an acknowledgement that there is any merit to the allegations. The Town and Blue Mountain further assert that they have taken numerous actions to comply with the requirements of the Fair Housing Act and promote fair and affordable housing in the Town. Under the terms of the proposed settlement agreement (**link**) the

Town would agree to amend the Town's Zoning Code with respect to middle-income housing to eliminate the preferences and provide certain incentives for middle-income housing developments in

Settlement with Fair Housing Justice Center and Westchester Residential

Opportunities. (cont)

the Town, key staff would be required to undergo certain training and certain aspects of the middle income housing program, including the affirmative marketing plan for middle-income dwelling units, would be administered with the assistance of Housing Action Council, an agency experienced in administering affordable housing programs. There is a monetary component to the settlement, the cost of which is not being borne by taxpayers. In fact, the settlement will result in savings as it is anticipated that the costs to litigate this matter, even if the Town were successful, would far exceed the proposed settlement.

A few further points: the settlement, including litigation expense, is being borne by insurers for Blue Mountain and the Town. In approving the settlement, the Board authorized its counsel to sign it on behalf of the Town.

Agreement between the Town and Teamsters Local 456 (Blue Collar)

As reported last week, the Town's negotiating team comprised of Town Comptroller Abraham Zambrano, Director of Personnel Joan Gallagher and Town's Counsel, Stephanie Roebuck recommended approval and ratification of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and Teamsters Local 456 (Blue Collar).

The following is from a memorandum from Comptroller Abraham Zambrano to the Town Board:

"Based on parameters given by the Town Board to negotiate with the Teamsters Blue Collar Union, the Town's negotiating team and the Teamsters reached a tentative agreement that has been ratified by the union's membership and it is now being presented to the Town Board for approval. The attached MOU (memorandum of understanding) and schedule detail the terms of the agreement and summarize the financial impact of the agreed upon terms with the Teamsters local 456 Blue Collar bargaining unit that is further detailed in a memo prepared by Stephanie Roebuck.

Financial Impact

Based on the tentative agreement in front of the Board for consideration, the net financial impact for 2018, 2019 and 2020 will be \$59,034, \$59,740 and \$54,501 respectively. These amounts are the net of changes in wages, longevity, welfare fund, and employee health insurance contributions. The total financial impact on the budget over the three years of the contract is \$173,274.

Financial Projections

In summary, the tentative agreement between the Town of Bedford and Teamsters Local 456 Blue Collar Unit is below the initially projected budgeted amount. The 2018 Adopted Budget appropriates \$75,000 in the Contingency Accounts for the settlement of the contract and based on financial projections, the contractual obligations for the unit were estimated to be \$77,250 and \$79,567 for 2019 and 2020. Consequently, the financial impact of the tentative agreement is below the initial projections and it is recommended that the Town Board approve the contract upon ratification by the union membership."

The Board approved and ratified the Memorandum. Please click [here](#) for the Memorandum, details of the financial analysis and the memorandum from Stephanie Roebuck, the Town's labor attorney.

2018 Town Paving Budget and Schedule

The Board approved a list of Town roads for paving as recommended by Public Works Commissioner Kevin Winn. I'd once again like to explain how the list is created. Shortly after I came onto the Town Board in 2008, the Department of Public Works instituted a fair and equitable system for identifying the roads to be paved from year to year. It is based on the condition of the road, with the roads in the worst condition to be paved first before they deteriorate further and result in far more costly paving. Each Spring the DPW updates its assessment of the condition of all 97 miles of the paved Town roads, since roads deteriorate at different rates over the winter. The condition assessment uses a rating system with 1 being in the best condition and 5 being the worst. As a result of higher appropriation levels, we have been able to pave all roads rated at 4 and 5 and now are working away at a lengthy list of roads rated at 3.5. I recognize that this explanation is disappointing to those who resident on roads which they'd like paved. If at all possible, we will continue the higher appropriation levels so that we can get to those roads sooner than otherwise. The good news is that we have more dollars this year for paving. My thanks to my Town Board colleagues for approving a higher appropriation level: total funds available now is \$1,250,000 million, which is the budget recommendation which Commissioner Winn recommended and the Board approved. For the 2018 Paving Budget and Road List click [here](#).

Appointment of Members of Reusable Bag Task Force

As reported previously, the Town Board adopted at its June 5 meeting a resolution reconstituting the RBTF as a permanent standing committee. Pursuant to the resolution, the Board appointed at the June 19 meeting members of the RBTF as follows:

1. Filippine de Haan for a term of three years expiring June 19, 2021, who shall serve as chairperson;
2. Ellen Calves for a term of three years expiring June 19, 2021, who serve as vice-chairperson;
3. Diane Pincus for a term of two years expiring June 19, 2020;
4. Allison Chernow for a term of two years expiring June 19, 2020; and
5. Rosemary Lee for a term of one year expiring June 19, 2019

We congratulate them on their appointment and are grateful for their continuing service to the community.

Adams Street Highway Yard upgrade

In the 2018 capital budget the Board approved additional funds for constructing a mechanical maintenance building. This change to the scope allows us to meet all of the project goals that we initially set. The goals were to provide regulatory compliant winter materials storage (done!), improve indoor vehicle storage, provide adequate facilities for mechanical fleet maintenance, and provide truck washing facilities. The fact that sewers will now be provided to the Adams Street Highway Yard allows for a simpler vehicle washing facility, which frees up funds to allow for construction of the mechanical maintenance building.

I have requested proposals for architectural services to design and provide construction administration for the mechanical maintenance building, which would likely be designed this year

and constructed next year. I plan to provide a memo to the Town Board in June with a recommendation on an architectural firm.

LED Street Light Conversion Project

The Town is in the process of converting all of our utility pole mounted street lights to LED fixtures. LED has the benefit of providing much less power usage, significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions associated with power consumption, and a more uniform level of light. The town received a \$250,000 grant for this project, and the project will pay for itself based on electricity savings. We will be selecting fixtures that provide light outputs at appropriate levels for residential streets, main roads, and state roads within our existing lighting districts. This summer we plan to install a demonstration area consisting of 30 street lights in order to allow residents to get a better feel for the new lighting. More information to follow.

Reminder: Keep your car doors locked at all times.

I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone to lock their cars at night. Recently, two of the cars in my driveway were broken into last night. Nothing was stolen since I don't keep anything of value in my car.

The Bedford Police Department continues to urge residents to lock their vehicles to help prevent such crimes of opportunity.

UPDATED: PAVING OUR STATE ROADS: STILL TRYING TO GET ACTION

I met yesterday with our newly elected State Senator Shelley Mayer who is making a priority of working to secure the funding for paving I-684 and for action on our other state roads running through Bedford. I'll be meeting with the acting regional director of NYS Department of Transportation with these roads high on our list of priorities.

I-684

It's been a long haul trying to persuade New York State to pave the concrete portion of I-684 that runs through Bedford (the same original surface from the late 1960s). You may remember that in early 2014 shortly after coming into office, I started working with Assembly David Buchwald and then State Senator George Latimer to urge the re-paving of the portion of I-684 which runs through Bedford. We also worked with Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney, a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, to press for funds from Washington, since 80% to 90% of the funds to repair our State's highways comes from the federal government. Thanks principally to the efforts of Assemblyman Buchwald a portion of the Bedford section was paved (the southerly portion up to Harris Road). But the portion from Harris Road through a bit north of Exit 6 is in terrible condition. One of our residents who is an engineer and works on major road projects described it in an e-mail earlier this week: "Spring has arrived!! Please take the time to drive northbound and southbound on I-684, including the exit ramps. The pavement deterioration has become very severe in some areas due to the harsh winters. You may see large chunks of concrete in the shoulders that have broken free from the mainline pavement. Perhaps the board can urge the NYSDOT Highway Department to have maintenance crews fill the pot holes in the Katonah corridor as a priority."

Your voice matters, so please contact our elected representatives to urge action to fix the unsafe road:

Governor Cuomo: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/contact>; also try <http://www.writethegovernorofnewyork.com/>; also 1-518-474-8390
DOT Albany office: 518-457-6195

Your voice matters, so please contact our elected representatives to urge action to fix the unsafe road (cont)

DOT Region 8 Acting Regional Director Lance MacMillan: 845-431-5750

If you send an e-mail, please consider copying me and our legislators:

State Assemblyman David Buchwald: buchwaldd@assembly.state.ny.us, 914-244-4450

State Senator Shelley Mayer: smayer@nysenate.gov, 518-455-2031

UPDATE ON ROUTE 117 WORK

As I reported previously, we have been working closely with the Village of Mount Kisco (which will be installing a new water line this year), Con Edison (which needs to finish its gas line work and road restoration) and the NYS Department of Transportation (which sets requirements for work on and restoration of Route 117). Our objective is simple: get the work done as soon as possible and get the surface restored to a decent condition, avoid disruption to our business and residential community and hold down the noise at night.

We've told all parties repeatedly that the existing the condition of Route 117 in Bedford Hills is unacceptable. It's a rough patchwork following the Con Edison gas line work last year.

Here's the status:

1. DOT advises us that it has required Con Edison to perform the curb to curb restoration we requested - that is, instead of paving just the southbound lane.
2. Work to be done at night from 7:00 PM through 6:00 AM. Minimizing the loudest work (i.e., saw cut and jackhammering). Con Edison has stated: "We will ask our contractors to try their best to get the saw cut and jackhammering work done before 10 pm, but it is an inevitable part of this work."
3. I just learned yesterday from Con Edison's representative: "The tentative Plan is start paving North of Green Lane on Monday June 4th. We will be working the same night strips we did for the install as discussed. Let me know if there are any questions."

ROUTE 22 AND ROUTE 117 – SOME GOOD NEWS

As I mentioned last week, I met on Monday with the Acting Regional Director of the NYS Department of Transportation and members of his staff. Highest on the list, of course, is pressing on paving 684. Still no headway, but some good news on Route 117 and Route 22.

- **Route 22 – Portion to be Re-Surfaced** I have been advocating for the last four years with each of three DOT Regional Directors that Route 22 be re-surfaced. Three years ago we took the then Regional Director on a road trip on Route 22 from Route 35 to the Village Green. Some progress: the Regional Engineer reported at the meeting that the portion of Route 22 from the Village Green up to Maple will be re-surfaced, most likely this year.

- **Route 117** As readers of my newsletters know, the Town has been working closely with Con Edison and the NYS Department of Transportation regarding the condition of Route 117 in Bedford Hills which had been dug up and very roughly patched following Con Edison gas line work and also with the Village of Mt. Kisco which informed us earlier this Spring that they will be replacing its water line running along Route 117. Below are the requests we made and in italics the status:

Route 117 (cont)

1. Upon learning of Mt. Kisco's waterline replacement work, we urged coordination among the Village, DOT and Con Edison. This coordination has been occurring. NYS DOT has been reviewing work and design and setting requirements.
2. We have asked for curb to curb restoration of the surface (rather than only the southbound lane). DOT advises us that it has required Con Edison to perform the curb to curb restoration. Following our meeting with NYS DOT, Con Edison's contractor as

ROUTE 22 AND ROUTE 117 – SOME GOOD NEWS

requested by us and required by DOT, paved **curb to curb** the portion of 117 running from Green Lane north to where it meets the residential portion of 117 in Bedford Hills.

3. Work to be done at night from 7:00 PM through 6:00 AM. Minimizing the loudest work (i.e., saw cut and jackhammering). Con Edison has stated: "We will ask our contractors to try their best to get the saw cut and jackhammering work done before 10 pm, but it is an inevitable part of this work." This was observed in this year minimizing disturbance to residents and businesses alike.
4. Repaving the rest of Route 117 south from Green Lane The NYS DOT regional engineer reported at the meeting that he needs to determine whether Mt. Kisco's waterline replacement work can be carried out such that it doesn't require digging up the travel lanes and without interfering with Con Edison's work.

FIXING POTHOLES

We need your help. We have 97 miles of paved Town roads and 33 miles of dirt roads. We've got crews out on the roads this Spring finding and fixing potholes, but you can help us identify any we miss. If you find potholes in our Town roads, please call our Pothole Hotline at 666-7669 or feel free to contact me at 666-6530 or Supervisor@bedfordny.gov.

For potholes on state roads in our Town, such as Routes 22, 117, 121, 137 and 172 we would suggest that you call NYS's pothole line at 1-800-POTHOLE.

And thank you.

SAVE MONEY AND THE ENVIRONMENT WITH THESE TWO EXCITING SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER INITIATIVES!

Nissan Leaf Discount Program

Electric vehicles save money and reduce fossil fuel usage and emissions. Click the link below to see how you can save up to \$12,500 on a 2018 all electric Nissan Leaf through the Sustainable Westchester bulk discount program. [Sign Up for Discount](#)

Community Solar

Now everyone can be a part of the transition to local, clean solar energy, even if you don't have access to your roof because you are in an apartment or it's too shady. Currently in Con Ed Territory only. Click [Here](#) to sign up for Local solar - and save money on your Con Ed bill!

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES – CHERRY STREET ADOPTED

As most are aware, the Town Board for a number of years has been considering and taking action on traffic calming measures for Cherry Street (see the list below). Public Works Commissioner Kevin Winn presented staff recommendations at the Town Board's May 1 meeting, which recommendations also were vetted by the Traffic Safety Working Group. After extensive public comment on the recommendations following the Commissioner's presentation, the Board adopted the recommendations as follows:

Raised Crosswalk

This crosswalk would replace the existing crosswalk in front of the Town Offices at 425 Cherry Street.

Speed tables - Trial Basis

Three removable speed tables will be installed on a trial basis: one a bit south of the intersection with the northern leg of Reyburn Road (just north of the driveway to 46 Cherry Street), the second just south of the intersection with Kelly Circle; and the third south of the intersection with Quicks Lane (just north of the driveway to 147 Cherry Street). These speed tables, which cost between \$7500 and \$10000 each, would be installed over the Summer and be in place for a trial period of approximately three months, after which the Town Board would evaluate their effectiveness and community response. The removable speed tables would be available for trial use on other roads in Town, as appropriate.

In addition to the actions described above, the following is a list of the actions the Town has taken over the last few years in an effort to calm traffic on Cherry Street in

- Stop signs at Huntville Road 1985
- Stop signs at Croton Lake Road 1995
- Added several miles of sidewalk in 2005 and 2008
- Added crosswalk across Croton Lake at Cherry 2010
- Performed traffic calming study on Cherry Street at Quicks Lane and Valley Road using consulting engineer VHB in 2014
- Moved centerlines and fog lines to narrow lanes and move traffic away from sidewalks in 2015
- Added crosswalk across Cherry Street at Valley Road in 2015
- Purchase of portable radar speed signs for use on all roads 2015 through 2017
- Federal Highway Association approved the Town's request to change the functional classification from Minor Arterial to Major Collector in January 2017
- Initiated additional traffic calming study using consulting engineer Kimley-Horn in December 2017

POST STORM ACTION

The Town Supervisors in the Brewster Division of NYSEG which encompasses northern Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties met recently with senior NYSEG management. The discussion primarily focused on NYSEG's program to reduce the incidence of outages including reliability targets, identification of major contributing causes, vegetation management, maintenance

programs, planned work, resiliency plans, capital improvements and future initiatives. We will continue to press NYSEG for improving its performance.

JOINT LETTER OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY LEGISLATOR KITLEY S. COVILL AND TOWN SUPERVISORS OF BEDFORD, LEWISBORO, NORTH SALEM, POUND RIDGE AND SOMERS TO NYSEG click [here](#) for the letter

ENERGIZE RESIDENTIAL

The Town of Bedford is one of only two Westchester County municipalities (the other is New Rochelle) with a residential Energize campaign each year for the last three years and our intent is to have it every year. Last October, the Town of Bedford, Bedford 2020 and Energize Bedford kicked off their limited time home energy efficiency campaign "Warm Home, Cool Planet, Hot Savings"! Interested homeowners mingled with contractors, pledged to reduce energy waste and sampled craft beer at the Bedford Hills Train Station. The program is continuing. Homeowners can receive assistance to help significantly reduce their home energy consumption, lower their energy bills, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and increase the year-round comfort and value of their home... and to save an extra 10% on the upgrade work. My thanks to my colleagues on the Town Board for supporting the continuation of this program and to the Energy Improvement Corporation with which we are partnering and in particular Lauren Brois, Director, Energize Residential for Westchester County and Alice Quinn who is director for the Hudson Valley. Learn more at <http://bedford.energizeny.org/>

“THINK DIFFERENTLY”

The Town Board unanimously passed a resolution adopting “Think Differently” an initiative to assist individuals with special needs and their families. Click [here](#) for the resolution.

TRAFFIC CALMING - CHERRY STREET

There was further discussion of the January 24 Report of John Canning of Kimley Horn, Town’s traffic consultant, regarding possible further traffic calming measures for Cherry Street. The Board asked staff to review the request of some in the community for speed tables or cushions on trial basis and will take up the matter again either at the March 6 or March 20 meeting. Click [here](#) for the reports.

CELL TOWERS AND CELL FACILITIES

The Planning Board further considered the application of Verizon for a cell tower on Hickory Lane in Bedford Village. Under the Federal Communications Law, the Planning Board has 150 days within which to make a determination regarding the application. The Planning Board had provided the applicant a possible alternative location which would be Indian Hill Park, and has asked Verizon to evaluate the site within 45 days. Consideration of installation of additional cell towers at various locations throughout the Town due to gaps in coverage adversely impacting the ability of police and emergency personnel to respond to emergency calls. Public and officer safety were cited.

BOND RESOLUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT 2018 PORTION OF 2018-2027 CAPITAL PLAN

The Board approved a SEQRA resolution and bond resolutions (several of which are subject to permissive referendum). In a February 1, 2018 memorandum to the Town Board, the Town Comptroller summarized the Capital Plan (which is posted to the Town’s website under the Finance Department page):

Click [here](#) for a copy of the Town Board approved Capital Plan for 2018 through 2027. The projects included in this ten year capital plan were submitted by the department heads in an effort to give the Town Board information about their department's needs over the next decade. At the end of 2017, the Town's outstanding debt will be \$39,895,073. That amount includes \$16,470,000 of debt attributed to the water filtration plant. The approved capital

BOND RESOLUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT 2018 PORTION OF 2018-2027 CAPITAL PLAN (cont)

plan adds \$23,445,638 in debt for all funds over the next 10 years and based on the amount of debt being retired on a yearly basis over the next ten years, the projected additional amount of borrowing required to finance the projects is manageable and taking into account the fact that the Town amortizes outstanding debt at an accelerated rate, the projected additional debt would be absorbed with little or no impact to the tax levy. A breakdown by fund is outlined below:

General Fund	\$ 7,040,850	30%
Highway Fund	\$11,418,537	48%
Park Districts	\$ 1,883,000	8%
Water Districts	\$ 1,769,917	8%
Sewer Fund	\$ 1,200,000	5%
Lighting Districts	\$ 133,334	1%

Included in the plan are projects for traffic safety throughout the Town, vehicle replacement for the police department, recreation, building and highway, equipment replacement for various departments. The plan also includes funding for facility improvements at the three hamlet parks, town owned cemeteries and other municipal facilities, as well as IT upgrades, road rehabilitation, and parking in Bedford Village and in an effort to continue with the Town's pledge to reduce its carbon footprint, the plan includes funding for new zero emissions or "green" parks equipment and engineering for geo-thermal systems for the Town House and 425 Cherry Street.

As in the past, this capital plan will be updated every two years in order to address additional needs unforeseen at the time this 10 Year Capital Plan was adopted."

With respect to the Bond Resolutions which the Board approved at the February 6 meeting, Comptroller Zambrano made the following remarks to the Board:

"Good evening there are five bond resolutions before the Town Board for approval. These resolutions will allow borrowing to fund 2018 projects approved by the Town Board. The first resolution "A" is for \$1,037,767 majority of money going for projects that have live of 5 years or less like equipment, minor expenses like cameras, safety equipment and decentralization of waste water treatment as well as IT upgrades throughout the Town. The second resolution "B" is for \$125,000 for 10 years and it includes funding for projects like septic replacement and sewer hookup at Town owned buildings that would hopefully happen later this year or in early 2019 as well as paving at 21 Park Avenue for the recreation department. Resolution "C" is for 15 years and it's for \$1,713,295; this money is for repairs and upgrades at the town parks in the three hamlets. Resolution "D" is for \$311,750; this money is for improvements to town owned buildings. The last resolution "E" is for \$700,000; this money is for work at the new highway garage."

I ask you to please send me an e-mail at supervisor@bedfordny.gov should you have any questions or comments on this report or any of our work on the Town Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Burdick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and last name "Burdick" clearly distinguishable.

Chris Burdick
Town Supervisor